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relatives, and a few of his most intimate friends attended him to the grave. To these were unexpectedly added, in the square, seven other mourning coaches, filled with those friends who were desirous of thus publickly manifesting their esteem for him, and accompanying him to his last abode in this world. The church was filled, and the sorrow for the loss of such a man was abundantly visible.

To the foregoing account which is partly extracted from the London Monthly Magazine, with additional observations, we subjoin his character as summed up by a correspondent of the Athenæum.

"He was a signal instance of the good that may be done by a man whose heart is set upon it. He was indefatigable in the execution of his designs, and they were always designs of public utility or private beneficence. He employed much time laboriously and usefully which the greater part of mankind spend in sleep. During the whole of his life he was in his study by five o'clock in the morning, and sometimes as early as four. His frame was not robust, but he was upon the whole blessed with good health, it was the reward of exercise and temperance.

In the important affair of resuscitating the apparently dead, it is in the recollection of a few and but few, that he experienced a good deal of opposition and ridicule. Less perseverance and ardour than he possessed, would not have surmounted the difficulties with which he had to contend.

Though the Humane Society was the object of his particular affection and unceasing solicitude, he was not regardless of other charitable Institutions, to most of which (in the metropolis) he was a contributor. But his private benefactions far exceeded those that were public.

The poor of the two Dispensaries to which he was physician, found in him the kindest friend. He frequently discovered that they wanted nourishment rather than medicine and very largely did he relieve their wants. His custom was to order a butcher, baker, or publican, who lived near the patient, to send in meat, bread, or porter, at stated times. By this means he knew that the poor people really had that which would benefit them. Thus did he restore many whom medical science could never have relieved.

To crown all, he was disinterested beyond any man that I ever knew."

More profit may be reaped from the contemplation of such a character, than from reading the lives of the most renowned warriors of antient or modern times. These dazzle with the false glare of ideal honour. The other diffuses a steady light to conduct "the way-worn traveller" to the heights of virtue, and to exhibit human nature in the most amiable point of view. "Go thou and do likewise," is the instructive lesson communicated by the perusal of such a life. Let us cherish the hope that the day will come when the laurels of the warrior will be viewed with abhorrence, but the unassuming wreath of virtuous exertion will bloom with immortal verdure.

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF JOS. DOMBEY, TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF M. DELEUZE.

Concluded from Page 32, *No. VI.*

HAVING amassed a considerable collection from Chili, and received the honours he merited, Dombey returned to Lima, with the intention of sailing for Europe. But his great reputation had again excited an envious disposition towards him, and injurious reports had been spread that he carried on an illicit correspondence with the English. And so far did these calumnies prevail, that when he went with his companions to the house of the visitor general, this officer was so much prejudiced against him that he thought proper to receive him with contempt and insult. Dombey, whom no power could frighten, replied in a calm tone, "I would not put up with your insults if I were only a common traveller."—"And what would you have done?"—"I should have already pierced you to the heart; but, as I go to the king of France, to give him an account of your proceedings, and to obtain justice, it behoves me in the mean time to remain quiet." So saying, he left the house. The visitor having been better informed, thought it his duty to endeavour to repair

these wrongs. Accordingly, he sent again for the man he had so unjustly outraged, and in the presence of a large assembly, assured him of the regret his former conduct had occasioned, and of the sincerity of his esteem, begging him to inform the viceroy of the reparation he had thus made him.

During the time Dombey waited the sailing of the vessel, which was to convey him to France, he occupied himself assiduously in putting his collection in order. He packed the whole with the greatest care in seventy-three cases, which cost him 18,000 livres. At this time he was so ill, that he had very little hope of revisiting his native country; but the fear of death affected him much less than the idea that his collection might be lost. He sent to M. Thouin a catalogue of the contents of the cases, requesting that if they should arrive at Cadiz without him, he would procure a commission from the king of France, to go there to receive them. "If the cases," says he, "should be opened in your absence, every thing will be deranged. My manuscripts are in a box by themselves. You will dispose of all for the benefit of my country."—He recovered, however, and sailed with his collection on board the Peruano, commanded by M. J. de Echinque, on the 14th of April 1784. Their voyage was prosperous as far as fifty degrees S. L.; but as they approached Cape Horn the wind was contrary, and the sea so boisterous, that the ship was dismantled, and sustained otherwise so much damage, that it took a month to run ten degrees. The crew were overcome with fatigue and benumbed with cold; thirty-two of them had already perished, and seventy-three were on the sick list. It was necessary to repair the ship, and divers were wanting to stop the leaks; but the dejected sailors had not the resolution to submerse themselves under the water in so cold a season. Dombey seeing the general danger offered a premium of 1500 livres to the first who should throw himself into the sea. Animated by the hope of this reward twelve sailors offered themselves. The danger of sinking was now removed, though the ship was still ungovernable; and a breeze springing up from the south, they arrived at Rio Janeiro on the 4th of August. Here they were obliged to remain four months to refit. Dombey, expecting to proceed direct to Europe, was not prepared for this stay, having brought with him no letter of recommendation. His reputation had however preceded him. The fame of what he had done at Huanuco and at La Conception had reached Brazil. The viceroy Vasconcellos, informed of Dombey's arrival, sent a carriage for him, loaded him with marks of distinction, and taking him to his country-seat, showed him a fine collection of dried birds, insects, and butterflies, of which the viceroy insisted upon his choosing enough to fill a chest. For this very handsome present, Dombey gave the person who brought it a thousand livres, little suspecting that the whole would be broken to pieces at Cadiz by the inspecting officers.

The rainy season not permitting any long botanical excursions, he collected only about two hundred new plants at Rio Janeiro; but he procured there seeds of a species of Waltheria, of which the inhabitants make very good cordage; butterflies, which still are the most beautiful among those admired in the galleries of the museum; a valuable sapphire; topazes of two colours; and a magnificent aiguemarine, the size of a pigeon's egg, for which he paid 1500 livres.

He took leave of the viceroy at the end of November, 1784, when he again received the most flattering proofs of his esteem, and arrived in the port of Cadiz on the 22d of February 1785. In spite of the extreme delicacy of his health, he was overcome with joy at the near prospect of the moment when he should offer to his country the fruits of his voyage, little suspecting that this would prove the commencement of his misfortunes.

The collection made by MM. Ruiz and Pavon, who had been ordered to remain in America, together with the duplicates which Dombey had designed for the king of Spain, had been embarked on board the San Pedro de Alcantara. The ship separated in the storm, and never reached her destination. The whole collection on

board the Peruano belonged to the king of France, as the captain's receipt acknowledged*. Dombey expected that his collection, being addressed to the minister of foreign affairs in France, would be freed from all visits of the custom-house officers. For, could it be suspected that prohibited articles were contained in the cases, the Spanish Embassador, in Paris, might have been directed to concert with the minister an appointment of some persons to attend the opening of the cases; or, if the inspection at Cadiz could not be dispensed with, at least care should have been taken that the necessary form was gone through without delay, and in such a manner that nothing might be damaged. If such behaviour was proper towards a Naturalist, sent by the king of France, how much more was it due to Dombey, for his conduct in America, where, at the imminent risque of his own, he had saved the life of a multitude of people, during a contagious disease, and had taught the means of curing and preventing this malady, which frequently rages in Chili! He had discovered a mine of quicksilver to supply the place of those that were become less productive than formerly; he had detected new mines of gold and silver, and pointed out the signs by which they might be known, and the best mode of working them advantageously; he had supported the troops against the rebellion of Tapac-Maro; and it had been acknowledged that the preservation of the province of Huanuco was owing to his zeal; he had ceded to Spain duplicates of his plants and of his descriptions, without demanding any thing in exchange; he had never accepted of any remuneration from the Spanish government, and had expended more than 200,000 livres in its service.

In spite of all these considerations, an order was sent for the immediate opening of the whole of the cases. These had been made with great care: they were double; that is to say, each case was enclosed in another, and both cemented together, and covered with skins to keep out insects and moisture. To open them and fasten them up again was a work of time, requiring much address and precaution, especially such as contained brittle subjects: the contents of many of them were, of course, damaged.

In the next place, to repair the loss which his Catholic majesty had sustained, Dombey was required to give up the half of his collection. But, as the separation of what forms in itself a regular series, would of course considerably diminish its value, he refused to comply with this demand. The consent of the court of France was however obtained, and Dombey was under the necessity of submitting. Commissioners were appointed on the part of Spain to attend the division. The arrival of these from Madrid was to be waited for, and in the mean time the cases were stowed in low and damp warehouses, where access to them was denied even to Dombey. Nor could he take out the seeds, though the necessity for sowing them was, on account of the season, very pressing. An offer was made him to fix a value on his collection; but he answered, that, being made for the government of France, he could not possibly set a price upon it, nor would he sell any thing. A part of the things was incontestably his own property; but no respect was paid to this; even the cases packed at Rio Janeiro, belonging to Portugal, which contained the presents made him by the viceroy, were opened.

During all this time Dombey was obliged to remain at Cadiz, without money, without credit, and without resource; and, though treated with contempt, was under the necessity of restraining his indignation. His claims were not heard, and spies were set to watch his conduct. Weary of these vexatious proceedings, he was tempted to renounce every thing, and to go and die in the bosom of his family; a resolution which he was prevented from executing only by the hope of being able to publish the fruit of his labours; but even this consolation was denied him by the jealousy of those at the

* This acknowledgment, which I have now before me, imports that the seventy-three cases, with the collection of Dombey, made *at the expense of the king of France*, were destined for the royal cabinet and garden at Paris.

head of the intrigue against him. An exact copy of his descriptions, and of the historical notes attached to his herbarium, was taken; nor was his own share of the collection given up, or his departure permitted, till he had given a written promise not to publish any thing before his companions should return from America, where they were detained by superior orders. Such an alarm was purposely excited in his breast, that he was induced to write to Paris, to prevent L'Heritier from publishing the descriptions and engravings of some new plants, which had been raised in the gardens from seeds sent by him from Peru. He thought only of saving himself by burying all that had passed in oblivion. Despair seized his mind, and exaggerated the horror of his situation; his memory and his reason became enfeebled, and he was no longer able to struggle against difficulties.

How, alas! did he now regret those beautiful countries where, in a delicious climate he observed and collected the productions of nature; where he found comfort, even in braving the dangers of attending the sick; where he had acquired friends; where, finally, love had prepared for him a new home! But now all was lost. Sometimes reanimated with his wonted energy, he thought if he were to return to Peru alone, he should be able to excite an insurrection there; but immediately repelling with horror the idea of a criminal revenge, he again sunk into a state of dejection.

At last, after a stay of ten months, he left Cadiz and embarked with his packages for Havre, whence he reached Paris. His collection arrived there also, but this he seemed no longer to set any value upon. He was requested to publish an account of it, but refused, maintaining that the promise he had given, though obtained from him by force, was not in his mind the less sacred.

Upon this refusal M. de Büffon, after having granted him 60,000 livres to discharge his debts, and a pension of 6000, took the herbarium to himself, and remitted it to L'Heritier, with directions to describe and get engraved all the new plants it contained. The Spanish minister being informed of these proceedings, made complaints; and the court of France being unwilling to offend that of Spain, M. de Buffon received orders to recall the herbarium. It was at this time that L'Heritier departed secretly with it to England, where he remained fifteen months occupied in describing it. This work has however never seen the light; the misfortunes of the revolution prevented its completion, and Dombey is deceased without having seen any thing published. L'Heritier has also perished by a most horrible catastrophe, before it was finished. In the mean time Messrs. Ruiz and Pavon having returned from Peru in 1788, it is at length from the Spanish press that this magnificent work, the Flora of Peru, has been ushered into the world.

It is impossible to avoid making here the following reflection: The vessel in which was embarked the collection belonging to the court of Spain being wrecked, it is from the specimens collected by Dombey, from his descriptions, and from the designs made under his care, that a part of the above mentioned work has been compiled; I say a part, because Ruiz and Pavon having staid four years longer in Peru, assisted by other fellow-labourers, must no doubt have added much to what Dombey did; nevertheless his name ought to have appeared in the title page*.

However indifferent it may be to the progress of science, whether this work was published by France or by Spain, it ought, nevertheless, for the reputation of Dombey, to be known how much he contributed towards it; and France herself is concerned, that the credit of the discoveries, made by a Frenchman, should not be taken from her. I will not attempt to point

* It is indeed confessed in the preface that the history of the plants of Chili could not have appeared, unless Dombey had given the duplicates of his collection. "Et nisi D.O.M. Dombeyum incolumem servasset, qui Gades pervenit, et prout ab expeditionis initio præstabilitum fuerat, plantas quas multiplici numero, eo consilio exsiccarat, communicasset, jacturam stirpium Chilensium penitus irreparabilem adhuc deploraremus." But it is by no means proved that Dombey had ever promised duplicates of his plants; and allowing the fact to be so, that condition was already fulfilled by the division that had been made before at Callao.

out the motives that should induce the editors of that work to seek to appropriate to themselves the labours of Dombey; or how the Spanish minister was deceived, and the claims of an unprotected traveller, who, separated from his companions, could not even call upon their testimony, were silenced. Why should I stop to develope a hateful intrigue, whilst I contemplate so elevated a character, the victim of jealousy and misfortune? I have proved that he has done great things, I have shown that he has not been recompensed, and I draw a veil over details most afflicting.

The plan of retiring into solitude, at the foot of Mount Jura, there peaceably to finish his days, near to a good cultivator whom he had formerly known, was what now alone occupied the thoughts of Dombey. All his debts were paid, and he found himself sufficiently rich. Disgusted with celebrity, and with the sciences which he once so passionately loved, he gave to his friends whatever he could dispose of, and broke off all his correspondence with foreign naturalists, preserving a friendly intercourse with M. de Pavon alone.

The death of M. Guettard having occasioned a vacancy in the academy in the year 1786, the learned members turned their views to Dombey, and M. Jussieu undertook to present him; but he obstinately refused the intended honour. The Russian ambassador having offered, on account of the empress, 100,000 livres for the duplicates he still possessed, he returned his thanks with saying, that an increase of fortune was not an equivalent to him for the pleasure of presenting to the naturalists of his own country specimens that had cost him so much trouble to acquire. Lastly, M. de Galvez, wishing in some sort to recompense him for the sacrifices he had required of him in Spain, wrote to offer him a very considerable sum, which he without hesitation refused*.

As his plan of settling in the country could not be executed so expeditiously as he wished, he in the mean time retired to Lyons, to the house of some ladies, his relations, where he became a misanthrope, hardly ever seeing any one. Here he was, during the siege of the city; and although he seemed to know nothing of what passed, and to pay no regard to life, yet the general desolation, and the surrounding dangers overwhelmed him with terror. He resumed courage however to assist the sick, and to give succour to some unfortunate beings, sinking under the horrors of famine. After the taking of the city, he hastened to quit this scene of carnage and devastation, to seek a peaceful asylum; but at that time blood was flowing in every direction, and the sights to which he was witness so harrowed up his soul, that he would no longer abide in France. An order was however necessary to enable him to quit it; he therefore solicited a commission which should authorize him to make a voyage to America. The committee of public safety having invited that of public instruction to send to the United States the standard of the new measures, the latter gave to Dombey this commission by an *arrêt* of the 26th Frimaire, year 2. He was likewise authorized to buy corn for France in the United States, and a number of queries were sent him relative to objects of science, of commerce, and of geography. Accordingly he embarked at Havre, in an American brig, the 24th Nivose, year 2; but being obliged by a storm to put into Guadaloupe, he landed at Port-a-Petre, the 21st Ventose.

Guadaloupe was at that time in the same distracted state as France. The revolutionary party had the command at Port-a-Petre: the governor resided at Basseterre, joined by such as wished to preserve the old order of things in the colony. Dombey being well received in quality of envoy from the republic, was for this reason suspected by the governor, who sent an order for him to repair to Basseterre. But although of principles opposite to the factious, he did not think proper to obey the summons; he resolved therefore to depart with the delegates of the revolutionary corps of representatives, who had freighted a small vessel for Philadelphia. He left Point-a-Petre the 1st Germinal, and went to sleep on a little island, whence the vessel was to take him the next day.

* This fact was verified to me, by M. Michel, doctor of physic at Fullins, a friend of Dombey, who had read the letter from M. Galvez.

During the night, he was seized and thrown into prison at the bay of Mahaut. Upon the knowledge of this event the inhabitants of Point-a-Petre assembled in a great croud to demand the release of the envoy of the committee of public instruction, which was immediately granted. As soon as he made his appearance, the enraged mob, to avenge the treatment he had received, determined to seize the authors of it. Dombey having in employed intreaties to oppose this violence, placed himself before the leaders of the mob, in struggling with whom he fell into Salt River, and was taken out without signs of life. This accident diverting the attention of the people, they returned peaceably home. Thus the last act of his liberty was to defend those against whom he had reason to complain. A violent fever was the consequence of this fall and alarm; as soon as he recovered from which, to avoid new troubles, he thought it was most prudent to go before the governor. Being interrogated, he was found to be an upright man, and a stranger to all party spirit. He was ordered however to quit the colony on board the same vessel that had brought him thither, which was about to set sail. Scarcely had the ship got out of the road before she was attacked by two corsairs, against whom she could not defend herself. Dombey was detected disguised in the habit of a Spanish sailor, and thrown into prison at Monserrat, where disease, disappointment, and ill usage, soon put a period to his existence. His fate was for a long time unknown; for such was at that time the convulsed state of France, that no notice could be taken of the misfortunes of an absent man. The intelligence of his death was at length received at New York, and communicated to the committee of public instruction on the 27th Vendemaire, year 3, about six months after the event took place.

Thus, after passing a life of perpetual agitation, and exposed to a thousand dangers, the victim of injustice, and robbed of the fruit of his labours, fell Dombey, without a friend to console him, and in distant captivity;—adding one to the list of those who have died martyrs to their zeal for natural history. But whilst we deplore his destiny, let us not consider it as without alleviation. Let it be remembered that his death arrived at that awful period when so many meritorious men were subjected to the revolutionary axe; that through his whole life his sentiments of benevolence, patriotism, and generosity were never diminished; that supported in the midst of dangers by his love of science, the idea of enriching his country never forsook him; that even his misanthropy, whilst it estranged him from the indifferent, attached him the more closely to a few friends, and the melancholy which cast a shade over his latter days, never changed the amiability of his character. Happy in the recollec- of the good he had done to his contemporaries; happy in the foresight of the advantage posterity would reap from his discoveries, he knew how to find enjoyments beyond the power of man to embitter. Long accustomed to disappointment, he gave up every project, renounced every hope; and despising both fortune and fame, in the midst of the most tubulent times, lived only to friendship and virtue.

I have already observed that the collection of Dombey was divided with Spain; that in Paris he had given to his patrons, to his friends, and to several naturalists, such duplicates as he could part with, without diminishing the value of the collection designed for the government.

Mineralogy is indebted to him for two new minerals, viz. muriated copper, or green sand of Peru; and *l'euclase*, the finest chrystal of which is preserved in the cabinet of M. de Drée. The *école des mines* possesses several valuable articles that came from him; but the greater part of the fruits of his voyages is contained in the National Museum.

The gallery of minerals owes to him, besides the two before-mentioned substances, crystals of prismatic hyaline quartz; a very fine native emerald from Peru, in a matrix of lamellar limestone; several pieces of native gold branched in quartz; a piece of vein very rich in silver, above thirty pounds weight: the metal appears in it in the form of diverging branches; superb pieces of muriated silver, with shining granulated crystals; a mass of compact muriated silver, weighing above twelve pounds; specimens of ores of quick-

silver; of flexible grit; of fossil bones of the gigantic animal of the Ohio, incrusted with silver, &c.

The gallery of zoology has received from him the Mouffette of Chili, described in the supplement to Buffon; many birds, amongst which are several species of Tangara; several fish, one unknown, described by M. de Lacèpéde, under the name of Gastrobranche de Dombey; the magnificent butterflies of Brazil, and several species of Curculio and of the Zygænæ*. His herbarium, consisting of about 1500 species, well preserved, is also deposited in the museum: amongst these are about sixty new genera, almost all of which have been published by Ruiz and Pavon, by names different from those given by Dombey. It is accompanied by a manuscript containing a history of the plants of Peru and Chili; the characters of the new genera; the description of the species, and an account of their uses†. It contains also many observations on the mines of Chili.

The garden of the museum is indebted to Dombey for several curious plants, which have thence been spread over the principal gardens of Europe. Such as the shrub known by the name of *Floripendia*‡, which produces so picturesque an effect in our parterres for several months in the year, catching the eye at a distance by its bell-shaped flowers, a foot long, hanging floating from extremities of the branches: the *Aristotelia maqui*, the berries of which afford a refreshing juice, in which Dombey found a great resource in the cure of the contagious fever of Chili; the species of sage which L'Heritier has named *Salvia formosa*, the scarlet flowers of which possess a lively brilliancy. But the most interesting of all the plants which Dombey has introduced amongst us, is the lemon-scented vervain (*Verbena triphylla* L'Her.) The leaves of this shrub, which grows to the height of fifteen feet, have the most delicious perfume of any plant that can be cultivated in Europe. At Paris it is necessary to protect it in the greenhouse, during the severe frosts; but in the more temperate climates it thrives in the open air. Hedges of this shrub are already seen at Florence; and in the department of the Lower Alps it has been successfully cultivated by M. de Ruffo. When it shall come to be more dispersed in the south of France, it will be seen by the side of the roads, forming little groves, which, from the the elegant growth of the shrubs, the lightness of the panicles of flowers, of a lavender gray colour, the lively green of the foliage, and above all from their sweet reviving perfume, will in every repect exceed the groves of myrtle so celebrated by the poets. The dried leaves preserve all their odour, and an infusion of them is both palatable and wholesome: if this plant, as some botanists think, ought to be separated from the vervains and made a separate genus of, we should wish to see it consecrated to the name of Dombey.

The gardens and the cabinets of natural history are not the only establishments that have been enriched by this traveller. The cabinet of antiquities in the national library has received from him the vases found in the tombs of the incas, and several curious monuments of the antient Peruvians.

Nothing of Dombey's has been printed, except a letter in the *Journal de Physique* (tom. xv.) upon the saltpetre found in Peru, and upon the luminous appearance of the sea. In this he observes that the sea is never phosphoric, except in the warm or temperate climates, and that it is especially so when the weather is disposed to be stormy. *Annals of Botany.*

* Amongst these papilios are two very rare and of the greatest beauty: one has been named by Fabricius *Papilio Luërtes*, the other is a non-descript, related to *Papilio Hecuba*. The weevils are not less remarkable, one is the *Curculio imperialis* of Fabricius; two others, *C. fastuosus* and *sumptuosus*, which Olivier has described from these individuals. The names given to these curculios point out how much they exceed in beauty and size what had been before observed.

† On comparing this manuscript with the *Flora Peruviana*, it may be seen that the Spanish authors have often copied the descriptions of the French botanist.

‡ Cultivated in Peru, but, as Dombey assures us, brought from Chili.